

Claims: Please amend the claims according to the status designations in the following list, which contains all claims that were ever in the application, with the text of all active claims.

1 - 20 (Canceled)

21. (New) A reversible folding tie that can be selectively manipulated into at least first and second folded forms and at least a first unfolded form, comprising:

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- (a) at least first and second pairs of releasable touch-surface fasteners, each pair comprising two members; the members of each pair being complementary mating members, such that each pair contains first and second member types that will mate with each other to form a releasable coupling, but wherein members of the same type will not mate with each other; and
 - (b) a segmented support element having at least first and second segments, said segments each having opposed first and second major sides;
 - (c) said first segment having said first member type of said first pair on said first major side, said second segment having said second member type of said first pair on said first major side, said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said member types of said first pair on the respective first major sides of said first and second segments,
 - (d) said first segment having said first member type of said second pair on said second major side, said second segment having said second member type of said second pair on said second major side, said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said first and second member types of said second pair on the respective second major sides of said first and second segments; and
 - (e) reversible-folding and joining means for joining at least two adjacent segments and providing a fold axis, said fold axis permitting said adjacent segments to fold together in first and second directions;
 - (f) said reversible-folding and joining means placed medially between said respective first sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said first pair;
 - (g) said reversible-folding and joining means placed medially between said respective second sides of said first and second segments that have said

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complementary mating members of said second pair;
whereby said first and second segments can be folded together in said first direction at said fold axis, such that said first and second segments will be placed in a first parallel orientation to form a first-side folded interface, and said first member type of said first pair on said first side of said first segment will be mated with said second member type of said first pair on said first side of said second segment, to form said releasable coupling inside said first-side folded interface, thereby forming said first folded form having both members of said second pair on the outsides; and said first and second segments can be folded together in said second direction at said fold axis, such that said first and second segments will be placed in a second parallel orientation to form a second-side folded interface, and said first member type of said second pair on said second side of said first segment will be mated with said second member type of said second pair on said second side of said second segment, to form said releasable coupling inside said second-side folded interface, thereby forming said second folded form having both members of said first pair on the outsides.

22. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 21 wherein said releasable touch-surface fasteners comprise hook-and-loop releasable touch-surface fasteners.
23. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 21 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means comprises a continuous flexible support element common to adjacent segments.
24. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 21 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means comprises at least one flexible narrowed spanning-element between at least two adjacent segments.
25. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 21, further including a discontinuous segmented support element having a gap between adjacent segments; said gap being spanned by a flexible narrowed spanning-element; said flexible narrowed spanning-element joining together at least two of said adjacent segments, and permitting flexing and twisting of said adjacent segments relative to one another.

26. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 21, further including a strip-like segmented support element having at least three segments; adjacent segments being joined to one another by said reversible-folding and joining means to form a strip-like elongated reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

27. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 26 wherein said strip-like elongated reversible folding tie is furcated.

28. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 21, further including at least three segments joined to a central point by said reversible-folding and joining means; said segments being spaced and arranged radiating outwardly from said central point, to form a star-like reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

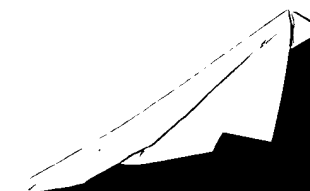
29. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 21, further including a sheet-like segmented support element, and at least four segments, at least two of said four segments being arranged in approximately horizontal arrays of segments, and at least two of said four segments being arranged in approximately vertical arrays of segments; said four segments thereby forming an approximately checkerboard-like reversible folding tie when said four segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

30. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 21 comprising a bulk reversible folding tie having at least four segments; said bulk reversible folding tie being separated into at least two smaller reversible folding ties, each of said smaller reversible folding ties having at least two segments.

31. (New) A method of clustering for modular management of moveable articles, comprising;

- a) providing at least two reversible folding ties that can be selectively manipulated into at least first and second folded forms and at least a first unfolded form, each of said ties including:
 - 1) at least first and second pairs of releasable touch-surface fasteners, each pair comprising two members; the members of each pair being

complementary mating members, such that each pair contains first and second member types that will mate with each other to form a releasable coupling, but wherein members of the same type will not mate with each other; and

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- 2) a segmented support element having at least first and second segments, said segments each having opposed first and second major sides, and
 - 3) said first segment having said first member type of said first pair on said first major side, said second segment having said second member type of said first pair on said first major side; said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said member types of said first pair on the respective first major sides of said first and second segments;
 - 4) said first segment having said first member type of said second pair on said second major side, said second segment having said second member type of said second pair on said second major side, said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said first and second member types of said second pair on the respective second major sides of said first and second segments; and
 - 5) reversible-folding and joining means for joining at least two adjacent segments and providing a fold axis; said fold axis permitting said adjacent segments to fold together in first and second directions; and
 - 6) said reversible-folding and joining means placed medially between said respective first sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said first pair;
 - 7) said reversible-folding and joining means placed medially between said respective second sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said second pair; and
- b) folding each of said reversible folding ties around at least one of said articles, thereby providing a same-side folded interface for detachably joining said complementary mating members on the same respective sides of said first and second segments, for providing said releasable coupling which holds each of said ties folded around each of said articles, thereby to enfold and hold each of
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said articles, and

- c) attaching at least two folded ties to one another; said folded ties being attached together by said releasable coupling between said complementary mating members of said releasable touch-surface fasteners disposed on the outsides of said folded ties, thereby to effect the clustered securement of said articles enfolded by said folded ties.

32. (New) The method of Claim 31 wherein said releasable touch-surface fasteners comprise hook-and-loop releasable touch-surface fasteners.

33. (New) The method of Claim 31 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means comprises a continuous flexible support element common to adjacent segments.

34. (New) The method of Claim 31 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means comprises at least one flexible narrowed spanning-element between at least two adjacent segments.

35. (New) The method of Claim 31 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means further includes a discontinuous segmented support element having a gap between adjacent segments; said gap being spanned by a flexible narrowed spanning-element; said flexible narrowed spanning-element joining together at least two of said adjacent segments and permitting flexing and twisting of said adjacent segments relative to one another.

36. (New) The method of Claim 31, further including at least one strip-like segmented support element having at least three segments; adjacent segments being joined to one another by said reversible-folding and joining means to form a strip-like elongated reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

37. (New) The method of Claim 36 wherein said strip-like elongated reversible folding tie is furcated.

38. (New) The method of Claim 31, further including at least three segments joined to a central point by said reversible-folding and joining means; said segments being

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spaced and arranged radiating outwardly from said central point, to form a star-like reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

39. (New) The method of Claim 31, further including at least one sheet-like segmented support element having at least four segments; at least two of said four segments being arranged in approximately horizontal arrays of segments, and at least two of said four segments being arranged in approximately vertical arrays of segments; said four segments thereby forming an approximately checkerboard-like reversible folding tie when said four segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

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40. (New) The method of Claim 31, further including at least one bulk reversible folding tie having at least four segments; said bulk reversible folding tie being separated into at least two smaller reversible folding ties, each of said smaller reversible folding ties having at least two segments.

41. (New) A method of spatial-bridging for managing moveable articles comprising:
- a) providing at least one reversible folding tie that can be selectively manipulated into at least first and second folded forms and at least a first unfolded form and including:
 - 1) at least first and second pairs of releasable touch-surface fasteners, each pair comprising two members; the members of each pair being complementary mating members, such that each pair contains first and second member types that will mate with each other to form a releasable coupling, but wherein members of the same type will not mate with each other; and
 - 2) a segmented support element having at least first and second segments, said segments each having opposed first and second major sides, and
 - 3) said first segment having said first member type of said first pair on said first major side, said second segment having said second member type of said first pair on said first major side; said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said member types of said first pair on the respective first

major sides of said first and second segments;

- 4) said first segment having said first member type of said second pair on said second major side, said second segment having said second member type of said second pair on said second major side, said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said first and second member types of said second pair on the respective second major sides of said first and second segments; and

- 5) reversible-folding and joining means for joining at least two adjacent segments and providing a fold axis, said fold axis permitting said adjacent segments to fold together in first and second directions;

- 6) said reversible-folding and joining means placed medially between said respective first sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said first pair;

- 7) said reversible-folding and joining means placed medially between said respective second sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said second pair; and

- b) providing a plurality of additional touch-surface fasteners having said complementary mating members; and
- c) attaching each of said articles to one of said additional releasable touch-surface fasteners; and
- d) joining at least two of said articles to said reversible folding tie; whereby said reversible folding tie provides a spatial bridge to connect together said additional touch-surface fasteners, thereby to effect organization and detachable securement of said articles.

42. (New) The method of Claim 41 wherein said releasable touch-surface fasteners comprise hook-and-loop releasable touch-surface fasteners.

43. (New) The method of Claim 41 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means comprises a continuous flexible support element common to adjacent segments.

44. (New) The method of Claim 41 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means comprises at least one flexible narrowed spanning-element between at least two

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adjacent segments.

45. (New) The method of Claim 41 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means further includes a discontinuous segmented support element having a gap between adjacent segments; said gap being spanned by a flexible narrowed spanning-element; said flexible narrowed spanning-element joining together at least two of said adjacent segments and permitting flexing and twisting of said adjacent segments relative to one another.

46. (New) The method of Claim 41, further including a strip-like segmented support element having at least three segments; adjacent segments being joined to one another by said reversible-folding and joining means to form a strip-like elongated reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

47. (New) The method of Claim 46 wherein said strip-like elongated reversible folding tie is furcated.

48. (New) The method of Claim 41, further including at least three segments joined to a central point by said reversible-folding and joining means; said segments being spaced and arranged radiating outwardly from said central point, to form a star-like reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

49. (New) The method of Claim 41, further including a sheet-like segmented support element having at least four segments; at least two of said four segments being arranged in approximately horizontal arrays of segments, and at least two of said four segments being arranged in approximately vertical arrays of segments; said four segments thereby forming an approximately checkerboard-like reversible folding tie when said four segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

50. (New) The method of Claim 41, further including at least one bulk reversible folding tie having at least four segments; said bulk reversible folding tie being separated into at least two smaller reversible folding ties, each of said smaller reversible folding ties having at least two segments.

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51. (New) A method of same-gender bridging for managing moveable articles comprising:
- a) providing at least one reversible folding tie that can be selectively manipulated into at least first and second folded forms and at least a first unfolded form and including:
 - 1) at least first and second pairs of releasable touch-surface fasteners, each pair comprising two members; the members of each pair being complementary mating members, such that each pair contains first and second member types that will mate with each other to form a releasable coupling, but wherein members of the same type will not mate with each other; and
 - 2) a segmented support element having at least first and second segments, said segments each having opposed first and second major sides, and
 - 3) said first segment having said first member type of said first pair on said first major side, said second segment having said second member type of said first pair on said first major side; said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said member types of said first pair on the respective first major sides of said first and second segments;
 - 4) said first segment having said first member type of said second pair on said second major side, said second segment having said second member type of said second pair on said second major side, said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said first and second member types of said second pair on the respective second major sides of said first and second segments; and
 - 5) reversible-folding and joining means for joining at least two adjacent segments and providing a fold axis; said fold axis permitting said adjacent segments to fold together in first and second directions; and
 - 6) said reversible-folding and joining means placed medially between said respective first sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said first pair;
 - 7) said reversible-folding and joining means placed medially between

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- said respective second sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said second pair; and
 - b) providing a plurality of additional touch-surface fasteners having the same member type, and
 - c) attaching each of said articles to one of said additional touch-surface fasteners having the same member type, and
 - d) joining at least two of said additional touch-surface fasteners having the same member type to fasteners of the opposite member type on said reversible folding tie; whereby said reversible folding tie provides a same-gender bridge between said additional touch-surface fasteners having the same member type, to effect organization and detachable securement of said articles attached to said additional touch-surface fasteners having the same member type.

52. (New) The method of Claim 51 wherein said releasable touch-surface fasteners comprise hook-and-loop releasable touch-surface fasteners.

53. (New) The method of Claim 51 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means comprises a continuous flexible support element common to adjacent segments.

54. (New) The method of Claim 51 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means comprises at least one flexible narrowed spanning-element between at least two adjacent segments.

55. (New) The method of Claim 51 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means further includes a discontinuous segmented support element having a gap between adjacent segments; said gap being spanned by a flexible narrowed spanning-element; said flexible narrowed spanning-element joining together at least two of said adjacent segments and permitting flexing and twisting of said adjacent segments relative to one another.

56. (New) The method of Claim 51 further including at least one strip-like segmented support element having at least three segments; adjacent segments being joined to one another by said reversible-folding and joining means to form a strip-like elongated reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

57. (New) The method of Claim 56 wherein said strip-like elongated reversible folding tie is furcated.

58. (New) The method of Claim 51, further including at least three segments joined to a central point by said reversible-folding and joining means; said segments being spaced and arranged radiating outwardly from said central point, to form a star-like reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

By 59. (New) The method of Claim 51, further including at least one sheet-like segmented support element having at least four segments; at least two of said four segments being arranged in approximately horizontal arrays of segments, and at least two of said four segments being arranged in approximately vertical arrays of segments; said four segments thereby forming an approximately checkerboard-like reversible folding tie when said four segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

60. (New) The method of Claim 51, further including at least one bulk reversible folding tie having at least four segments; said bulk reversible folding tie being separated into at least two smaller reversible folding ties, each of said smaller reversible folding ties having at least two segments.

61. (New) A reversible folding tie that can be selectively manipulated into at least first and second folded forms and at least a first unfolded form, comprising:

- (a) at least first and second pairs of releasable touch-surface fasteners, each pair comprising two members; the members of each pair being complementary mating members, such that each pair contains first and second member types that will mate with each other, but wherein members of the same type will not mate with each other,
- (b) a segmented support element having at least first and second segments, each of said first and second segments having opposed first and second major sides,
- (c) said first and second segments being separated from one another by a gap, said gap being spanned by at least one narrowed twisting-folding-spanning element, said element spanning said gap and connecting adjacent segments to one

another,

- (d) said first segment having said first member type of said first pair on said first major side, said second segment having said second member type of said first pair on said first major side, said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said member types of said first pair on the respective first major sides of said first and second segments,
- (e) said first segment having said first member type of said second pair on said second major side, said second segment having said second member type of said second pair on said second major side, said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said first and second member types of said second pair on the respective second major sides of said first and second segments; and
- (f) said gap placed medially between said respective first sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said first pair;
- (g) said gap placed medially between said respective second sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said second pair;

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whereby said first and second segments can be folded together in said first direction at said gap, such that said first and second segments will be placed in a first parallel orientation to form a first-side folded interface, and said first member type of said first pair on said first side of said first segment will be mated with said second member type of said first pair on said first side of said second segment, to form said releasable coupling inside said first-side folded interface, thereby forming said first folded form having both members of said second pair on the outsides; and said first and second segments can be folded together in said second direction at said gap, such that said first and second segments will be placed in a second parallel orientation to form a second-side folded interface, and said first member type of said second pair on said second side of said first segment will be mated with said second member type of said second pair on said second side of said second segment, to form said releasable coupling inside said second-side folded interface, thereby forming said second folded form having both members of said first pair on the outsides.

62. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 61 wherein said releasable touch-surface fasteners comprise hook-and-loop releasable touch-surface fasteners.

63. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 61, further including at least one strip-like segmented support element having at least three segments forming a strip-like elongated reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

64. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 63 wherein said strip-like elongated reversible folding tie is furcated.

65. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 61, further including at least three segments joined to a central point; said segments being spaced and arranged radiating outwardly from said central point, to form a star-like reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

B₄ 66. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 61, further including at least one bulk reversible folding tie having at least four segments; said bulk reversible folding tie being separated into at least two smaller reversible folding ties, each of said smaller reversible folding ties having at least two segments.

67. (New) A reversible folding tie that can be selectively manipulated into at least first and second folded forms and at least a first unfolded form, comprising:

- (a) at least first and second pairs of releasable touch-surface fasteners, each pair comprising two members; the members of each pair being complementary mating members, such that each pair contains first and second member types that will mate with each other, but wherein members of the same type will not mate with each other;
- (b) a segmented support element having at least first and second segments, said segments each having opposed first and second major sides;
- (c) said first segment having said first member type of said first pair on said first major side, said second segment having said second member type of said first pair on said first major side, said first and second segments thereby being

complementary segments with regard to said member types of said first pair on the respective first major sides of said segments,

- (d) said first segment having said first member type of said second pair on said second major side, said second segment having said second member type of said second pair on said second major side, said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said first and second member types of said second pair on the respective second major sides of said segments; and
- (e) a reversible fold axis between adjacent segments, said fold axis permitting said adjacent segments to fold together in first and second directions,
- (f) said reversible fold axis placed medially between said respective first sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said first pair;
- (g) said reversible fold axis placed medially between said respective second sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said second pair;

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whereby said first and second segments can be folded together in said first direction at said fold axis, such that said first and second segments will be placed in a first parallel orientation to form a first-side folded interface, and said first member type of said first pair on said first side of said first segment will be mated with said second member type of said first pair on said first side of said second segment, to form said releasable coupling inside said first-side folded interface, thereby forming said first folded form having both members of said second pair on the outsides; and said first and second segments can be folded together in said second direction at said fold axis, such that said first and second segments will be placed in a second parallel orientation to form a second-side folded interface, and said first member type of said second pair on said second side of said first segment will be mated with said second member type of said second pair on said second side of said second segment, to form said releasable coupling inside said second-side folded interface, thereby forming said second folded form having both members of said first pair on the outsides.

68. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 67 wherein said releasable touch-surface fasteners comprise hook-and-loop releasable touch-surface fasteners.
69. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 67, further including a discontinuous segmented support element having a gap between adjacent segments; said gap being spanned by a flexible narrowed spanning-element; said flexible narrowed spanning-element joining together at least two of said adjacent segments, and permitting flexing and twisting of said adjacent segments relative to one another.
70. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 67, further including a strip-like segmented support element having at least three segments forming a strip-like elongated reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.
- By 71. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 70 wherein said strip-like elongated reversible folding tie is furcated.
72. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 67, further including at least three segments spaced and arranged radiating outwardly from a central point to form a star-like reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.
73. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 67, further including a sheet-like segmented support element, and at least four segments; at least two of said four segments being arranged in approximately horizontal arrays of segments, and at least two of said four segments being arranged in approximately vertical arrays of segments; said four segments thereby forming an approximately checkerboard-like reversible folding tie when said four segments are unfolded and in a common plane.
74. (New) The reversible folding tie of Claim 67 comprising a bulk reversible folding tie having at least four segments; said bulk reversible folding tie being separated into at least two smaller reversible folding ties, each of said smaller reversible folding ties having at least two segments.

75. (New) A method of weak-securement for modular management of moveable articles, comprising;

a) providing at least one reversible folding tie that can be selectively manipulated into at least first and second folded forms and at least a first unfolded form, each of said ties including:

- 1) at least first and second pairs of releasable touch-surface fasteners, each pair comprising two members; the members of each pair being complementary mating members, such that each pair contains first and second member types that will mate with each other to form a releasable coupling, but wherein members of the same type will not mate with each other; and
- 2) a segmented support element having at least first and second segments, said segments each having opposed first and second major sides, and
- 3) said first segment having said first member type of said first pair on said first major side, said second segment having said second member type of said first pair on said first major side; said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said member types of said first pair on the respective first major sides of said first and second segments;
- 4) said first segment having said first member type of said second pair on said second major side, said second segment having said second member type of said second pair on said second major side, said first and second segments thereby being complementary segments with regard to said first and second member types of said second pair on the respective second major sides of said first and second segments; and
- 5) reversible-folding and joining means for joining at least two adjacent segments and providing a fold axis; said fold axis permitting said adjacent segments to fold together in first and second directions; and
- 6) said reversible-folding and joining means placed medially between said respective first sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said first pair;
- 7) said reversible-folding and joining means placed medially between

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- said respective second sides of said first and second segments that have said complementary mating members of said second pair; and
- b) folding said reversible folding tie around said articles, thereby providing a same-side folded interface for detachably joining said complementary mating members on the same respective sides of said first and second segments, for providing said releasable coupling which holds said tie folded around said articles, thereby to enfold and hold said articles, and
- c) providing at least one additional touch-surface fastener; and
- d) pressing said additional touch-surface fastener to an exposed fastener on the outside of said tie, to mate said additional touch-surface fastener to said exposed fastener, such that said tie and said additional touch-surface fastener are attached together and may be pulled apart by tugging; thereby to provide weakly-secure attachment for said articles held by said reversible folding tie.

B_y 76. (New) The method of Claim 75 wherein said releasable touch-surface fasteners comprise hook-and-loop releasable touch-surface fasteners.

77. (New) The method of Claim 75 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means comprises a continuous flexible support element common to adjacent segments.

78. (New) The method of Claim 75 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means comprises at least one flexible narrowed spanning-element between at least two adjacent segments.

79. (New) The method of Claim 75 wherein said reversible-folding and joining means further includes a discontinuous segmented support element having a gap between adjacent segments; said gap being spanned by a flexible narrowed spanning-element; said flexible narrowed spanning-element joining together at least two of said adjacent segments and permitting flexing and twisting of said adjacent segments relative to one another.

80. (New) The method of Claim 75, further including at least one strip-like segmented support element having at least three segments; adjacent segments being joined to one another by said reversible-folding and joining means to form a strip-like elongated

reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

81. (New) The method of Claim 80 wherein said strip-like elongated reversible folding tie is furcated.

82. (New) The method of Claim 75, further including at least three segments joined to a central point by said reversible-folding and joining means; said segments being spaced and arranged radiating outwardly from said central point, to form a star-like reversible folding tie when said three segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

By 83. (New) The method of Claim 75, further including at least one sheet-like segmented support element having at least four segments; at least two of said four segments being arranged in approximately horizontal arrays of segments, and at least two of said four segments being arranged in approximately vertical arrays of segments; said four segments thereby forming an approximately checkerboard-like reversible folding tie when said four segments are unfolded and in a common plane.

84. (New) The method of Claim 75, further including at least one bulk reversible folding tie having at least four segments; said bulk reversible folding tie being separated into at least two smaller reversible folding ties, each of said smaller reversible folding ties having at least two segments.

